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MID[illegible] ARGUS

Vol. XXVIV, No. 4 [illegible]YN, N. Y. Oc[illegible]ber 3, 1958

Seniors to Face State Exams; Merit Scholarship Scores Due

Midwood seniors will take the New York State Regents Scholarships Examination on Wednesday and Thursday, October 15 and 16.

Thursday, students will arrive promptly at 8:30 A.M. to remain until 12:15 P.M. After a lunch break, students will return at 1:00 P.M. and stay until 4:30. Those interested in the Nursing and Engineering Scholarships must return on Friday and complete their exam from 8:30 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. The test equipment includes pencils, a regular pen and blotter, and an eraser. Candidates will be able to purchase the required electrographic pencil in the cafeteria, period 8, on October 14 or 15 at twenty-five cents each.

In answer to the question, "Why are such scholarships, as the State Scholarships awarded?", this reporter will quote from a bulletin issued by the New York State Education Department called, "Opening the Door to College Study." "The State (New York) is making an investment in youth. The boys and girls of today are the leaders of tomorrow . . . in every field of human endeavor and aspiration. It is therefore of vital concern to the people of the State that young people develop their talents and abilities to the fullest extent."

The New York State Scholarship is granted on the basis of family income. The minimum awarded to winners is $250 a year for a family income of $5000 and up. The maximum grant is $700 for an income of $1000 and less.

Those seniors who participated in the National Merit Examination last spring obtained their results on Friday, September 26. Those contestants who have a position as semi-finalists from this screening test will then take the December 8, 1958 College Boards. The top scorers or finalists will receive the scholarships. The Argus will publish the names of Midwood's semi-finalists as soon as they are available.

Many other scholarships are given to worthy recipients. Included among the general scholarships, are General Motors, General Electric, Ford, Westinghouse, Proctor and Gamble, and American Can Company scholarships. Most colleges offer private scholarships. Information is usually supplied in the particular bulletin.

G.O. Sales October

During the week of October 20-24, the City of Midwood will hold a G.O. Week. Under the supervision of Mr. Sternberg, faculty advisor, Billy Minkin, Comptroller, and Jerry Lazare, Finance Commissioner, this function, being held for the first time this term, is intended to maintain a stabilized G.O. budget.

Various items will be sold, including sweat shirts, pennants, stickers, pens, and currently popular records. These articles will be available to all students, though students belonging to the G.O. may obtain them at additional discounts.

The main lobby of the school and the B71 Alcove will house the booths for the sale of the articles. Pupils of Kensington will also have a chance to buy in Room 303 at the Annex during the week of October 14-17. Volunteers will help to increase the publicity and selling staff.

The proceeds of the G.O. Week will help balance the budget. The G.O. will grant appropriations to numerous organizations and teams. Among these are the football team, Band, Orchestra, Argus and the choruses. Billy Minken, the originator of the G.O. week, commented, "The largest portion of the profits will be used for new equipment for the teams, and the remains will go to other extra-curricular school activities." He added, "We hope to make Midwood students realize that the student government and its leaders are working for the school and for the benefit of the students.

Eddie Skloot, Midwood's new mayor, stated, "We want this thing to be a fantastic success, and the only way it can be so is to get a strong backing from our student body. With this support I am sure we shall start a wonderful precedent."

SKLOOT INDUCTED AS NEW MAYOR

DAVE HIMMELSTEIN

The City of Midwood officers took their oaths of office before an assembly composed of fellow students on Thursday, September 25.

Mr. George Dobren, administrative head of the Kensington Annex, and the installation assembly's guest speaker, swore in Ed Skloot, the newly-elected mayor. Ed then proceded to administer the oath to the new members of the Board of Estimate, members of the A.M. and P.M. Councils, and the recently-appointed commissioners.

Left to right: Bob Harlem, Ed Skoot, Billy Minkin.

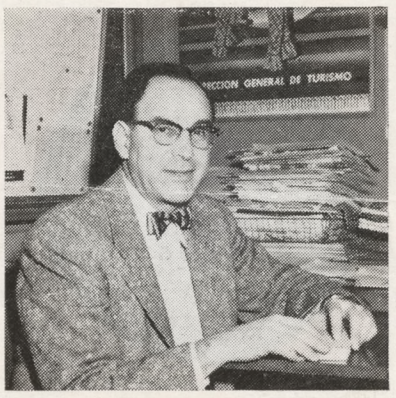
The City of Midwood commissions number twenty-one. Election Commissioner this term is Hedy Winower. Sue Levine will assist her. Steve Konowalow will head the Guard Commission. Finance and Bookstore Commissioners are, respectively, Jerry Lazar and Herbert Bernstein. Gail Mendelsohn is the new chief of the Publicity Commission, while Joe Knispel, assisted by Andrea Tullman, will take charge of the Newspaper Commission. Fran Weiner is assuming the duties of Recreation Commissioner, and Charlotte Siegel will become F.D.R. Commissioner. The top posts on the Ticket Sales Commission will be filled by Barry Puritz and his assistant Mike Walter. Mark Baskir, College Commissioner, and Sue Lorde, Kensington Commissioner, will be assisted by Harvey Silver and Joanne Goodman, respectively. Sandy Lipschitz is head of the Sing Booklet Commission and Rita Boxer will direct the Social Service Commission. The Welfare Commission will be under the supervision of Nancy Kleinberg, while Meri Diamond continues in charge of the Around New York Commission. Mike Kaufman, assisted by Jeff Abrams, will manage the activities of the Orientation Commission. Vincent Mancini steps in as Art Publicity Comissioner, and Ken Mazlen is the Athletic Commission head. David Hammer, Civil Service Commissioner, Janet Katz, Club Commissioner, and Ed Frauwirth, Community Center Commissioner, complete the slate of Commission chiefs.

FACULTY ADDS 16 PROFS; GODIN, SAYER NEW HEADS

ELLEN GOODY

This term, sixteen newly appointed teachers will fill the vacancies created by former Midwood faculty members who have either transferred, been promoted, or are out on sabbatical leave.

Mr. Julius Kramer, former acting head of the Social Studies Department moved up to the position of Grade Advisor for all P.M. students attending classes in Midwood's main building. Replacing him is Mr. Albert Sayer, previously



Mr. Sayer

Chairman of the S.S. Department at Bushwick High School. When asked his opinion of Midwood Mr. Sayer commented, "The pupils here are extremely fortunate to be able to attend such a well-organized school, run by an exceptional faculty. I'll get used to it and will be as proud of Midwood as other people seem to be."

Mrs. Hazel Rundback and Miss Sybil Mellman have left the Social Studies Department, the latter going to Central Commercial High School. Miss Mona Cowen and Mr. Martin Tublin are filling the vacancies thus created.

Mr. Abraham Rogal, formerly of the Foreign Language Department, advanced to First Assistant at Bushwick High School and Mr. Jacob Godin has been promoted to the post of Co-Chairman of the Language Department here. Linguist Mr. Gerald Hauser, who will teach at Midwood's annex, Kensington, is replacing Mrs. Esther Weiser and Mrs. Bernice Bernstein.

Minus from the physical science staff are Mr. Richard Bresnick and Mr. Leo Kimmel, the former going to Boys' High School and the latter to Erasmus. The recent appointees in the Science Department, Mr. Martin Burger and Mr. Alex Davis, will take their places.

Mrs. Ruth Selden, Mrs. Charlotte Hopfenberg and Miss Yvette Rudin are the three new English instructors, taking the place of Mr. Melvin Weiser and Miss Barbara Reiter.

Gym classes will receive the newly acquired assistance of Mr. Charles Damiani and Miss Judith Levinsohn, former Midwoodites, who are stepping in to replace Mrs. Estelle Schaffer, Mr. Lee Aronson and Mr. Fred Hess.

Mr. Lloyd Wisoff is the sole addition to the mathematics department. Joining the art staff are Mrs. Lois McCready, home-economics teacher and Mrs. Jo Schaffer, art instructor. The new laboratory assistants are Mrs. Florence Schwartz and Mr. Jeromet Fischer.

Honor Societies BeginProcessing New Applications

Arista and Archon, Midwood's scholarship and service honor societies, respectively, will be installing new members within the next few weeks.

Students who had an over all average of ninety per cent after their sixth term were eligible to apply to Arista To be accepted, the applicants must also have a minimum of five service credits per term, and a good character record.

Acceptance to Arista automatically brings membership in the National Honor Society. Students unable to qualify with the service requirements of Arista, but fulfilling the requirements of scholarship and character, may be granted membership in the National Honor Society provided that they coninue to maintain scholastic and character honors. In addition, they must obtain five service credits for each subsequent term.

Members of the Honor Society are eligible to take a nation-wide scholarship qualifying test on October 21. This test is used by many large corporations as the basis for scholarships.

To qualify for Archon, students are required to have satisfactory scholastic ratings, high character recommendations, and a minimum of forty-five service credits.

City Roundup.... P. T. A. DRIVES FOR FUNDS

The Parent-Teachers Association will start its annual membership drive on October 8.

On that date, envelopes will be distributed asking for contributions. On the envelope are listed the important functions of the P.T.A. It declares that the organization:

Responds to student needs for materials and equipment not supplied by the Board of Education.

Supplies funds for urgent repairs, special apparatus or extra clerical help.

Supports SING, PATTERNS and any other publications.

Pays for prizes and awards to students distinguishing themlselves in school activities.

On request supplies guides, advisors, or chaperons for extra-curricular activities.

With all this in mind the P.T.A. officers are asking fo 100% membership and all the benefits this will bring.

As the result of a new program inaugurated this term by Mr. Schlakman, head of Midwood's English Department, third and fourth term English classes will receive intensive training in speech and grammar.

The change in the curriculum is partially due to the Board of Education's increased emphasis on speech and grammar. Another factor is the reports of college students that they have found many courses difficult because of their weaknesses in these subjects.

Mr. Schlakman explained, "It has been found that a number of students showing a great deal of intelligence do not speak as well as they might. The concentrated courses are not only for the purpose of teaching these and other students better grammar, but also to teach them cultivated English."

English midterms for the third and fourth terms will be altered accordingly.

It is Mr. Schlakman's hope that with the introduction of this new policy, students will show increased improvement in speaking and composition, and will be better equipped to cope with college requirements and courses.

The Social Studies Forum held its first meeting of the year on Friday, September 12, in room 245, to elect officers and to plan for the discussion topics of the coming year.

The group chose Abram Schulsky as Forum President, and Fred Gise, Boy Leader of Arista, Vice President. Paul Bernstein and Elizabeth Emil became Secretaries of the Forum.

To complete the Executive Board, Jacob Leiberman and Judy Lerner were elected Members Without Portfolio.

As yet, very few of the discussion topics for the year have been made definite. Since it is a gubernatorial year, the forum hopes to have speakers from both major parties to discuss the important issues of the campaign.

Midwood High School has received a new coat of paint and a new central unit for the public address system.

The painting job, which disrupted the first weeks of classes, began under a contract let by the Board of Education on the eleventh of August. The painters were not able to begin work at an earlier date because of a previous committment. The late start led to the inconveniencing of the faculty and all members of the student body.

Replacement of the control and amplification section of the public address system caused other difficulties in the school. The installation deprived Dr. Bernstein, Mr. Dank, and other school officials of the use of a direct channel of communication with the students during the last weeks of the '58 spring term and the first few weeks of the present term.

Messages to students were sent in notes to homeroom teachers. The new machine, which is replacing a wornout unit, is expected to maintain more adequate service.

Kenny Mazlin, a member of the Junior class, broke all records last June, when Johnson and Johnson presented him with a $5000 scholarship.

Kenny came into his fame and fortune while browsing through a magazine. He noticed an essay contest sponsored by the Johnson and Johnson Company. The topic was education, and the entire essay was limited to fifty words.

Kenny submitted several entries. "They differed slightly in style, but contained the same ideas," he said. "I feel that education makes for a better citizen and a clearer thinking individual."

The contest, which ran on a high school level, received thousands of entries. Johnson and Johnson awarded several prizes, with $10,000 as top prize.

Kenny was second winner. This money will be made available to him when he is graduated from high school and will be used for tuition in the college of his choice.

Our congratulations to Mrs. Beirds on the marriage of her daughter, Virginia Adelaide Beirds, June 21, to Mr. Millard C. Davis and on the birth of her granddaughter Suzanne on August 22. The child was born to her son and daughter-in-law, of Santa Monica, California.

We also happily announce the birth of a baby girl, Diana Beth, born to Mr. and Mrs. David Shaefer. Mrs. Shaefer was formerly a member of the Girls' Health Education Department faculty.

Students Elect Council Presidents; Nyman and Rummo Will Lead Sessions

The A.M. and P.M. Councils held elections for officers on September 22, in room 245. The A.M. Council elected Gary Nyman, president, and Malvina Goldstein, secretary. Nick Rummo and Marsha Sierlin emerged as the new president and secretary, respectively. At this time, the results of the frosh council are not yet available.

The councils play an important role in student government by serving as a medium of exchange for ideas and opinions or issues that will affect the City of Midwood. Most items that require a vote originate at the Board of Estimate and are then brought up in front of both councils for further discussion. These weekly meetings act as a focal point for information that must later reach the students. Matters for discussion include deciding the time for primary elections, and regulating requirements and service credit for club members.

It is the duty of the home room president to attend all council meetings. If three meetings in a row are missed, he will not longer be allowed to participate. These officers are chosen by the individual classes. The job of these representatives is an important one, for they must absorb, observe, and inform their fellow classmates.

Hedy Winawer, the Election Commissioner this term, sums it all up by saying; "The Councils are the voices of the student body, and as such, play a vital part in the functioning of our school."

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★ VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME
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MAGAZINES ELECT

ABBY WETTAN and BRUCE JACOBS

Midwood students elected the editors of the school's literary and departmental publications early in September.

Billy Gluck is the new Editor-in-Chief of Argus and Kit Porter will serve as Managing Editor. "I am deeply honored that my fellow workers felt I was capable of fulfilling such a responsibility. I know I'll do everything to make this term a memorable one for all the staff of Argus," commented Billy. "Road Ahead" chose Fred Gise for its top editorial position, and Elizabeth Emil and Abe Shulsky to aid him as the Assistant Editors. Danny Adelman will be the Assistant Editor.

Left to right: Fred Gise, Billy Gluck, and Danny Doscher.

A new magazine, published jointly by the Mathematics, Biology and Physical Science Departments, will make its debut this term. Mr. Zahalsky is the faculty advisor of the journal, as yet untitled, which will serve as a vehicle of expression for students interested in mathematics and the sciences. The magazine's staff elected David Goodman and Wendy Aronson, Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor respectively. Mr. Zahalsky explained that, "teachers and pupils alike will be invited to write for the Math-Science journal. We hope to encourage an interest in the sciences and help the students understand the interrelationships of the sciences and humanities."

The journal will also publish articles and experiments written by past and contemporary scientists. The staff will base its selection of such articles on their value and interest for the Midwood student body.

Choruses Pick Heads

Midwood's musical organizations, with the exception of Mixed Chorus, held their elections for officers early this term. Mixed Chorus had already held their elections late last Spring.

They chose Larry Weinstein, Alice Borsuk, and Larry Rosenblum, President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, respectively. Their secretaries are Esther Spilberg and Marion Demas.

Girls' Chorus elected Dawn Ruggiero, President, Malvina Goldman, Vice-President, and Roso Russo and Evelyn Yoswynski, recording and corresponding secretaries.

Midwood's all male chorus decided on Irwin Feiffer, Bernard McDonald, Joe Freedman, and Paul Leibowitz as its office-holders.

The Band and Orchestra have also chosen officials. Heading the Band is Irwin Feifer. His assistant is Stuart Levy. Janice Moglen is Secretary-Treasurer. The Orchestra elected Lisa Infante, President. Alice Horhwitz, Janice Geligoff, and Stuart Levy are also officers.

Mike Erdos is the new Drum Major of the Marching Band.

The Orchestra will play at the Archon Assembly. Beth-El, in New York has invited the band to play at a pep rally on Sunday, September 28, at the Weh hospital's dedication.

Keningston Greets Sophomores; Commercial and Core Kids, Here

Kensington is taking on a bigger chore this year. In addition to a freshman class of approximately 325, the annex, located at 18th Avenue near Ocean Parkway, has made room for 360 sophomores as well.

Third termers taking a commercial course are attending the main building. This is because Kensington does not have adequate facilities for these students.

Other sophs attending classes in the main branch are students who are members of the "core" group and the six major courses, along with students who are in any of the "instrumental" classes at Midwood.

In order to coordinate student government activities between Kensington and Midwood, the Publicity and Kensington Commissions will issue a bi-weekly bulletin. This newsletter will be distributed throughout the homerooms of both buildings. The bulletin will list dates and activities of special interest to the students.

In reference to the freshmen and sophomores at Kensington, Sue Lorde, Kensington Commissioner, said "We're hoping that they will take just as much of a part in our student government activities as any student attending Midwood proper."

When asked how he plans to help overcome problems presented by the division of the sophomore class, Mr. Grebanier, student government faculty advisor, replied, "Officers representing sophs will have to go from the main building to the Annex, or vice versa, in order to tie together the activities of the sophomore class." He also said, "The sophomore officers will work in close conjunction with the Kensington Commission."

On September 17 the Board of Estimate approved the organization of a vote on this issue as this paper went to press, the new commission, which is to be led by Irwin Feiffer, was given the green light "because of its importance." The commission's main function is to help the students at the Annex appreciate more fully Midwood's concerts, and to stimulate interests in all fields of music. "Perhaps it will help to increase attendance at these school functions," suggested newly-stalled Mayor, Eddie Skloot. "Kensingtonians do not feel as though they are part of Midwood High School."

"In order to close the gap between the students at the annex and those at Midwood," the mayor emphasized, "we are really going to push attendance at all school functions."

A larger number of tickets will be available to Kensington than ever before.

SINGS ELECT HEADS, PLAN NEW STYLE

Midwood's seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen have gotten off to an early start this term in the organization and election of officers for the school's twelfth annual Sing.

This year, Sing will have a new format. The freshmen and sophomores of Kensington will work together in a "Kensington Sing", while the sophomores in the main building will present a sing of their own. This is the solution to the problem that arose when the sophomore class was split between the two buildings.

For their final Sing, last year's winners, the class of 1959, elected Dave Rubinson and Johnny Rosen as their chairman and co-chairman. They chose Evelyn Kramer their leader, and Sheila Youner became co-leader. For the job of secretary, the seniors selected Eva Ritter and Judy Simonson. Hildy Schnell is their treasurer.

The juniors, who placed second last year, elected Dave Plavin as chairman and Norma Padow as co-chairman. They picked Andrea Raifman as their leader, Esther Spillberg as co-leader, and Judy Fleiss and Maida Weisenthal secretaries. Lennie Weissman was chosen treasurer.

The sophomores attending the main building chose Sue Schwartz to be their chairman and Patti Mencher to be co-chairman. Patti Treib became their leader. The secretarial duties went to Sandy Miller and Grace Vincient, and the financial responsibilities to Ethel Kunofsky.

The freshmen and sophomores at Kensington elected Bruce Bleecker, Alan Dischel, Margie Arnswalden, Bobbi Silverberg, Ellen Friedman, and Mike Fisher as the chairman, co-chairman, leader, co-leader, secretary, and treasurer of their first combined Sing.

The Sing commissioners this term are Larry Rosenblum, Judie Miller, Diana Stern, and Judy Miller. Larry Rosenblum will guide senior Sing activities, while Diana Stern will aid the juniors. Judie Miller will work as the sophomore advisor, and Judy Miller as the Kensington commissioner. Mrs. Tillis is the faculty advisor for activities in the main building, and Mrs. Heller, for Kensington.

Thus far, Sing meetings have been held in any vacant corner of the school. Members have been inconvenienced by the recent painting, and have had to move frequently from place to place.

Another problem that remains unsolved is that of a time schedule for junior Sing meetings, one which will enable all juniors to participate in Sing. There

Left to right: Larry Rosenblum, Judy Miller, Judie Miller, Diana Stern.

are many difficulties, among them the division of the junior class into "AM" and "M" sessions.

Sing will be held in the Midwood auditorium on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, December 11, 12, and 13. Dress rehearsals will be held on Saturday, December 6.

We Regret . . .

JIMMY GROSSMAN

The death of Walter Bruan was a shock to those who knew him. These include his loved ones, his friends, and a great many of his classmates during his years at Midwood High School. He was a member of the graduating class of 1957 and invaluable to many of the school's organizations. Walter sang second bass for mixed chorus, was on the track team, was an active member of the athletic commission; and was goalie, half-back and captain of the soccer team. Coach of the team Mr. Moscowitz, commented, "Walter was an outstanding player. He was fearless, aggressive, skillful, and above all, a good sport."

Because of his great ability and activity in the field of athletics, a committee headed by Joel Weiss was formed to create an athletic scholarship fund in the name of Walter Bruan.

In his last school year he attended Brooklyn College where he again excelled in the field of sports.

"Bessie Sper was one of the charter members of the Midwood's faculty. Her passing has left us with a wealth of memories of her many acts of kindness and thoughtfulness to students and fellow teachers."

Thus read the first paragraph of a letter from Dr. Bernstein addressed to Midwood teachers, concerning the departure of their colleague and friend, Mrs. Bessie Sper. The latter part of the letter dealt with a fund whose purpose is to make a shelf of books in the library in her name.

Our condolences to Mrs. Elsie Pearlman of the Math Department upon the passing, this summer, of her beloved mother, Mrs. Fanny Cohn.

July 9th, Mr. S. Pearson, the devoted father of Mrs. Beirds, a member of the Math Department, passed away at the age of 86.

Joel Margolis, son of Mrs. Ruth Margolis, the school's dietician, died this summer, in an accident while traveling in Spain. Mrs. Margolis has our deepest sympathies.

EDITORIAL . . . . . .

In Little Rock, Arkansas, the schools are not expected to open until some time in October when a vote will have been taken on whether or not its four schools will open, segrergated or integrated. As of this writing, the date has been fluctuating. Everything depends upon just one man—Governor Orval Faubus and how long he can go on defying the Supreme Court's writ.

The segregation problem seems a very remote thing to us here in Midwood, because we have never experienced the deep hate and intolerance that a large segment of southerners feel. To us it is completely unreasonable and unfounded, but to them it has been their way of life since the Civil War. Whether it be right or wrong, we do not care to comment at this time. We cannot help thinking though, how very fortunate we are to be editors of the Midwood Argus rather than that of Central's High paper. We often wonder if perhaps he (the editor) is in that precarious position of having to please both sides, without actually stating his own view. When it becomes necessary to hide behind a cloak in fear of being criticized, the editor can no longer do his job as the voice of a free people.

The editors of today have tremendous responsibilities to their readers—the first of these being a free press. Just what does a free press mean to you, the students? It encompasses the right of the reader to express his views openly and unafraid in the "Letters to the Editor" column. It means reading the truth, uncensored (though faculty advised), written by impartial parties. It entails the explanation and reasoning behind both the pros and cons of controversial topics. Only in a democratic society could this exist.

In the coming issues of Argus, as in the past, you can expect a newspaper founded upon these principles and dedicated to uphold its ideals.

In conjunction with this editorial, we invite our readers to submit "Letters to the Editor" of no more than 150 words. You may hand them in directly to the Argus office, 449.

MIDWOOD ARGUS

MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Brooklyn, New York

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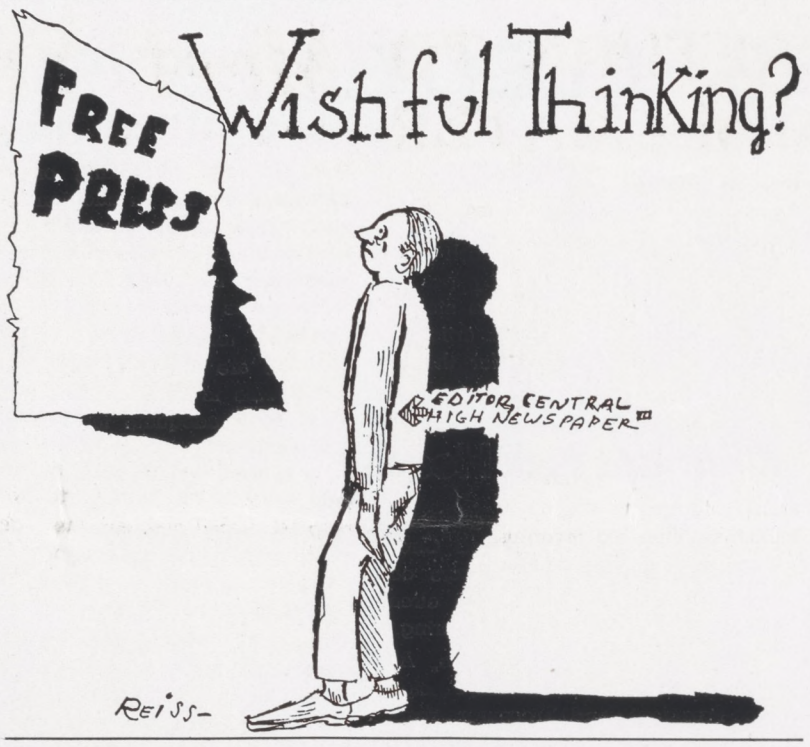


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor of The Midwood Argus:

I cannot understand how the administration could allow us to come to Midwood in the midst of a paint job. After ten weeks of vacation, surely the job could have been completed with proper and clever timing. Many stairways were blocked thus jamming the halls. A number of classes, including one of my own, had to meet in the cafeteria or auditorium, because their classrooms were being painted. It is my opinion that this delay in classroom organization and work, and general confusion should and could have been avoided.

Steve Saikin, 403A

To the Editor of the Midwood Argus:

Last year, a Midwood student suggested that Midkids be awarded certificates for perfect attendance and punctuality. The student further suggested that this would increase school spirit, especially among those who do not have high averages and who would indeed be proud of a Midwood honor certificate.

Miss Shore heartily endorsed the idea and yet nothing further was done. I think that the idea should be reviewed and put into effect as soon as possible.

Bruce Jacobs, 154A

To the Editor of the Midwood Argus:

B71 is an open organization in which all students are asked to participate. After all, the student government, consisting of the councils, commissions, and term-held offices, play an important part in the efficiency and coordination of our school. Is it true that in order to learn of its meetings, standing in front of Cooky's on Avenue J is necessary? I feel our student government is not being publicized widely enough to the average individual attending Midwood.

Ruth Aronowsky, 432A

Principal's Message

Dear Boys and Girls:

Our building is in the process of being renovated and redecorated. A considerable sum of money—your money and that of your parents, since we are all taxpayers—is involved in these improvements. The objective is to make our educational environment as comfortable, pleasant, and beautiful as possible.

This places upon all of us the obligation to keep our school looking attractive and clean. We can do so only if we maintain a strong sense of responsibility and pride in its appearance. We expect all of you to cooperate in keeping the sidewalks adjacent to the building, its halls, and its clasrooms in clean and neat condition.

Our problem in this regard has always been with a relatively few students who somehow have not developed the attitude of pride and the qualities of citizenship and responsibility which are necessary. I appeal to these few for cooperation, and I ask the vast majority of students to help change the attitude of fellow-students who scatter remains of paper, scraps, and cigarettes inside and outside our building, or who commit acts of vandalism.

Let us, without exception, be proud of our building and treat it as we would our very homes. Keep Midwood clean and beautiful!

Sincerely yours,
J. L. Bernstein,
Principal

Mayor's Desk

Through the years, man's greatest goal has been to attain his personal and political freedoms. In many areas of the world, the goals of freedom of speech, expression, and action have been achieved to various degrees. In Midwood we have achieved them fully; for these privileges are an integral part of our student government.

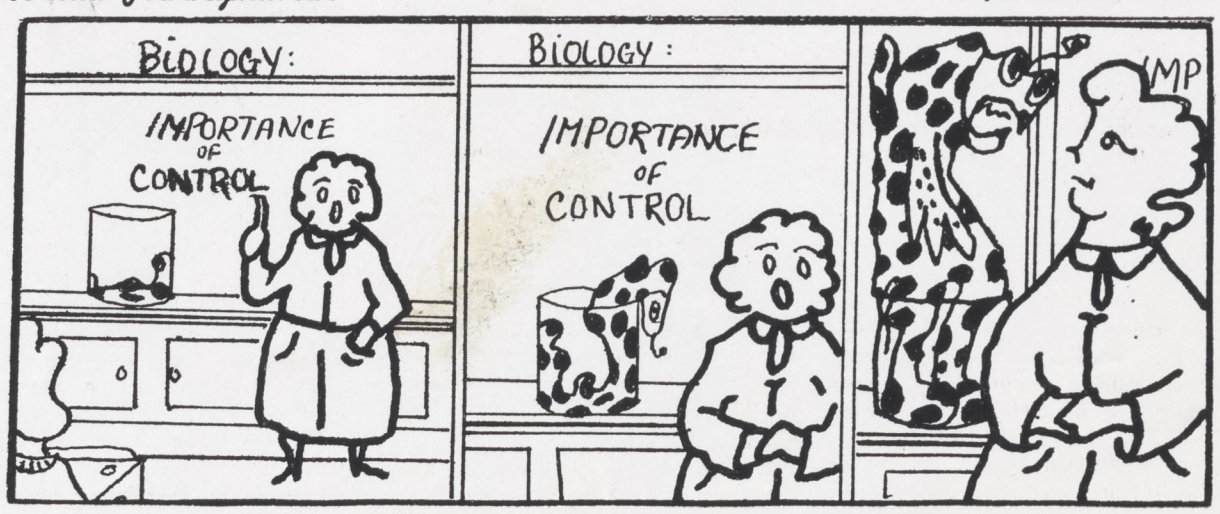
We, the student body, have an important responsibility to fulfill. We must be sure our basic rights will be safeguarded. To accomplish this we must support our government and participate in its activities. This support includes attending football games, joining clubs, participating in "Sing" and becoming an active member of student government functions. In Midwood our greatest problem is that of the increasing apathy towards school events. Our athletic events must be sellouts; our councils must give us the best possible representation; our commissions must function with maximum efficiency and the best possible backing. It is in this way that we can keep and enjoy our precious freedoms.

Being given the privilege of writing the Mayor's Desk is indeed gratifying. I should like to take the opportunity to thank the entire student body and faculty for the great honor of being elected your mayor. I especially wish to thank two of my good friends, Dave Rubinson and Shelley Fogel for excellent campaigns and many wonderful ideas given to me.

Sincerely yours,
Ed Skloot

Miss Pennyworth

JEFFREY SADOCK



COLLEGIANS RETURN TO HAUNT OLD ALMA MATER

During the month of September, Midwood's population was temporarily swelled by the influx of "old" grads. These wise, sophisticated college men and women had been Midwood students three months previously, but they are now a breed aloof from the cares and woes of high school life.

The alumni first visit the scenes of their after-class activities. Many go down to B71, where they offer helpful advice, while being in the enviable position of not having to carry it out. And Argus is sure that they would all come back to 449 even if they had no affiliations with Miss Mulhern and the paper during their stay in Midwood. The intellectual types go back to visit the Math Team, while the athletes visit the gym.

Many people make the mistake of thinking that the members of the class of '58 are still Midwood students. One zealous member of the guard squad sent a touring graduate to the Attendance Office and insisted that she get a late pass. This alumna was stumped, however, when asked what her homeroom was.

You needn't make this mistake. The recent grads are easy to identify. Their important characteristics are a Syracuse sweatshirt, or a Brandeis beany, and a smug, self-satisfied look, (the latter may be justified; They got into college, you didn't, yet!) The graduate seems to look with a condescending air at "the poor suckers who are still slaving away" in Midwood. Free from the worries of marks, the graduate sees all the teachers he previously cursed for ruining his average, and finds out they weren't so bad after all. In fact, graduation makes teachers almost nice!

The ex-Midkids also made it a point to come back to visit the auditorium, in which they slept through many an assembly. They also viewed with mild distaste the stage on which they heard that they had lost Sing for the fourth time last November. But don't fear—the Seniors DID beat Kensington.

The musically inclined chorus veterans returned to the music rooms to harmonize their old favorites. While on the fourth floor, they caught a glimpse of the art rooms where they had sweated through required art for four unartful terms.

And as they prepare to leave, after their last glimpse of Midwood before setting off for college, the inevitable question comes up. "Freshmen, what happened to your Senior hats?"

Bob Schwartz, Steve Saikin

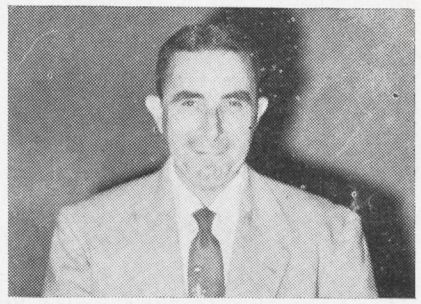
Meet Your Teacher

Bonjour, buenos dias and shalom! Meet Mr. Jacob D. Godin of Midwood's Language Department. Does the word language bring to mind memories of tongue twisting, ear strain and homework? The mention of Mr. Godin, however, usually brings forth another impression; a teacher who possesses the gift of informality, a sense of humor and an easy manner which contribute to "relaxed learning" in his classroom.

A year ago Mr. Godin took charge of a special French class for students with outstanding ability. He hopes to help Mr. Cabat maintain the high standards of Midwood's Language Department and to make it the biggest and best in New York City.

Hobbies? "My favorites are music, travel, and the theatre." Musically inclined, he finds violin playing an enjoyable pastime and has collaborated with Mr. Chancy. He now plays with Myron Levitts' symphony orchestra at the 49th St. "Y."

An avid tourist, Chicago-born Mr. Godin has traveled through the United States and Canada extensively, Mexico, Cuba, and Europe. Traveling pals are his family, his wife and son, Vic, who is planning to attend Columbia University this fall.



Mr. Godin

"The most important aspect of teaching is the teacher-pupil relationship. It is important for the student to realize that the instructor is there to help, not to criticize." This is the opinion of Mr. Godin, derived from his years of experience, learning and teaching in various schools.

The fact that he is a language instructor presents an interesting question. Is Mr. Godin's popularity due to his ability to speak the same language as his students?

Midmoods . . . .

JON HORN

Fall is a funny kind of time. I'm never sure whether it's a sad time or the beginning of something new. I guess it's both. School, of course, is on, and new experiences and situations with people will occur. That's good. But, if there had been just a little more summer, to experiment, think, and do what I felt like . . . that might have been better. But we must advance, I must fight for my niche and I must learn. I must go on in the prearranged way though some times I regret it. I must send a school of higher learning my "vital statistics" and hope for acceptance. I know that this is right, but I honestly can't . . . won't accept the reasons why. I'm confused. I'm bugged. I have no desire to do the things I should, can't define the things I really like to do. Just another stage, but how many individuals endowed with "so called" maturity are lost in this way? The generation too "beat" to enjoy or participate in the realities of life . . . the "angry young men", cynical of the world in which they live, retreating to the security of their lonely towers? This season represents the muddle of rebellion. Winter, realistic, fast-moving, is winning, slowly, from the enigmatic dream that is summer.

I am aware that my duty to myself and my family is to try to obtain and absorb much knowledge—To be successful . . . to be on top. A winner. And yet, I am not always sure.

Midwood tries to be influential. The "winner" incentive is initiated by the faculty and especially by the kids. Being a "somebody" as opposed to a "nobody", in any one of the endless extra-curricular innovations is important. To others, the goal is popularity. To ignore or defy these goals is to be considered an "unspirited worker" by some and a "stray" or rebel by others.

Of course I want to learn something in my school, and I want to engage in school-associated activities that might interest me, but I have become less interested in these functions as I see more of their workings. What then is left? As the wave of crisp autumn breezes sweep me into reality's waters, I feel caught up in this undertow of unbalance. To work or not to work? To join? I must rid myself from these aimless ponderings.

Does anyone know within himself what his chief goal—ambition is? Perhaps it is good for me—for all of us—to seasonally or occasionally take stock of ourselves, and define our values and goals. Only in this way can we—can I anyway—emerge with a clear state of mind. In a while, I shall be on my own path again, headed for whatever destination I will determine. And so for all of us. Meanwhile, I'm bugged!

SPOTLIGHT

"How can you tell them apart?" is the question that usually arises when the Skloot twins, Bob and Ed, come up in conversation. In fact, until they reached their second birthday, Mrs. Skloot found it necessary to paint their initials on the soles of their feet with mercurochrome, in order to distinguish between them. However, aside from their identical appearance, they are very different personalities.

Ed, Midwood's newly elected Mayor, referred to himself as a "Joe newcomer" in student government, stated that his appetite for participation in B71 activities was whetted as late as his fifth term. At the time, he began to sit in on Board of Estimate meetings, observing and "taking it all in." The following term he ran for sixth term Vice-president and emerged victorious. Now that he has taken the "monstrous leap" to the mayor of CM, he has many plans for the coming school term. Ed has already found that there is a good chance of holding this year's annual spring concert in Walt Whitman Auditorium. As for his new position and the responsibilities that go along with it, Ed feels that he will get out of the job exactly what he puts into it. Nevertheless he claims that the quote "Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown" applies perfectly to his situation.

Ed and Bob Skloot

Bob found himself caught up in his twin brother's enthusiasm for student government, and is now seventh term president. Asked about his plans for the senior class, Bob replied that he wishes to continue the Senior Weekly and to keep students informed about colleges by having an active college council. He also hopes for a senior show that will do justice to the largest graduating class in Midwood's history.

Concerning their plans for the future, both boys look forward to attending college. Bob hopes to major in drama at Northwestern University. He is a member of the All-City Radio workshop and is interested in radio work or the teaching of speech.

Ed plans for a career in either politics or any branch of English (except teaching) after graduation from Union, Dartmouth or Princeton. Although his junior 'board' scores were acceptable, Ed feels that too much stress is placed upon colleges and that "a three hour test should never outweigh four years of high school work."

The Skloot twins believe that, as they work together with the rest of the students' representatives, the coming school term will be an extremely successful one.

Coeds Condemn Conformity As Clothes Cults

To the alert eye, the thronged halls of Midwood High School are throbbing terminals of teenage life. One student's opinion of another can be a highly interesting subject.

This reporter, questioning well known, average, and active students alike, received amusing answers to oft-raised questions. Taking, for instance, the topic of conformity and fads, these amusing and unexpected answers were obtained.

One baffled Senior remarked, "Apparently the girls have no individuality and no personalities of their own, so they carry tennis rackets, and wear raincoats on sunny days. As for sneakers, they're supposed to make their feet smaller." Sorry, Senior, they make the feet larger!

Recently, exotic pendants have appeared, along with the crew neck sweater. Many girls give their adornments highly expressive and imaginative names. One girl, clad in strict Ivy League tradition, stated that, "Pendants are a way of expressing your own innate desires."

Practicality can also be an important factor. A member of the Midwood Math Team who wears bright red or dirty white sneakers, gives the following explanation: "Sneakers are acceptable anywhere casual clothing is accepted. The dirtier, the more unsightly the sneakers, the better. And they are cheap!"

One of the last students questioned, ran a hand through his crew-cut, fingered the bulky black wool of his sweater, and commented drily, "Cronies, all of them!"

Roving Writer Unravels Travels

I went to Chinatown by subway. That's where my adventurous night on the town began.

Stepping into the Brighton Express, I sighted a rather portly fellow kneeling on his hands and knees. I contemplated the little bald spot on his head and tried to understand the reason for his strange position. My coldly methodical mind checked all possibilities: 1) He was a Moslem praying to Allah; 2) he had missed his stop and was trying to get out of the train by digging a hole in the floor; 3) he was endeavoring to wear out his trousers and the palms of his hands. I got up from my so comfortable subway seat and left at Canal Street.

Oh, Canal Street; what stories of apoplectic bus drivers, sympathetic cabbies, and intoxicated pedestrians does your dirt-encrusted asphalt hide? Oh, Canal Street; magnificent street of canals, I wouldst sing of your greatness, but space is limited.

I turned left after ascending from the subway, and as I walked, I watched for the intersection of Mott Street and Canal. After walking twenty-three and a half blocks I realized that I had originally turned the wrong way. Retracing my steps, I met a friendly old gentleman whose breath smelled of whiskey. After striking up a conversation, he reassured me, or rather he and his thermos of er—coffee, reassured me that I had not lost my way, I had merely misplaced it. Fortified by his advice, I easily found my way back to my destination: Chinatown.

On Mott Street, I soon found, stands that Pearl of Oriental wisdom in a cesspool of Occidental ignorance: Kim Kwok's Book Nook. At that moment, however, most Oriental knowledge was displaced by the ubiquitous "Hula-Hoops" and some old "Davy Crockett" caps. I got quite a chuckle out of that.

I turned and sighted, on the other side of the street, China Fair, Inc.—Chinatown's answer to Coney Island. Over the Pokerino tables is a sign which reads: "Confucius say—time spent in leisure—like money in bank". Come to think of it, it should read "Confucius say—time spent in China Fair, Inc.—like money in owner's bank!" As can be plainly seen, I didn't win.

Next, I passed an exotic food store. It sold such commonplace items as brown and black bean sauce, (Maypo and liquid rubber) and dried duck feet (second cousin to frozen pelican bill).

These rare delicacies aroused my hunger (or was it my thirst?) and, in any case, I soon found myself before the Crossroads Restaurant.

When I saw the menu, I knew I was in the wrong place. I only had 97 cents and who wants to spend that on a bowl of fried rice? When I explained to the waiter that I had mistaken the place "for "Cooky's", he graciously said "Cooky's? You have dat for dessert." I just simply couldn't communicate with the guy.

As soon as the manager was made aware of the situation, I was unceremoniously ushered out. I then did what any other red-blooded American lad would have done. I didn't holler, no, I didn't break a window, no, I certainly didn't cry—I simply went home.

Peter Melnick

Alumnews

Robert Cabat, class of '53, and the son of Mr. Louis Cabat, Language Department Chairman, was married in June. He is presently teaching in P.S. 62.

McKinney Russell, a 1956 graduate, is broadcasting behind the "Iron Curtain" in association with the Voice of America.

Roy Lieberman, class of '55, has been appointed Assistant Manager of the "Cornell Sun", at Cornell University.

William Goldfarb, who was graduated from Midwood in 1955, has been elected to Konosioni, the Senior Honor Society at Colgate University. Elected members are chosen for leadership in campus activities.

Bernard Paul Lane, class of '55, was awarded the Samuel C. Lamport prize in economics at Brown University.

David Brechner has been elected captain of Princeton's tennis team for 1959. He was captain of the Midwood tennis team for two years.

Judy Swiller, graduated from Midwood in 1953, and Gordon Davidson were married on Sunday, September 21. Judy, a former feature editor of Argus, is now writing for Charm Magazine.

Ellen Ferber, class of '56, recently returned from France and addressed Miss Bradshaw's College French class about her experience as part of the "International Experiment."

Elise Melnick, class of '49, now Mrs. Marvin Simon, gave birth to a daughter, Kim Alison, on June 23.

Steven Kowalsky, graduated from Mid-Midwood in 1956, has been accepted to the Rochester Institute of Technology, after attending the Merchant Marine Academy for one year.

Erich Segal, '54, a former mayor of Midwood, was graduated from Harvard, Cum Laude.

We regret to learn of the death of Walter Bruan, Midwood graduate, class of 1957.

Joel Weill, also graduate of '57, is chairman of Walter Bruan Memorial Committee, which will give an award at graduation to a student of good scholastic average and outstanding athletic ability as befitting the tradition set by Walter.

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Tennis Tourney Concluding; Quarter Finals Draw Near

The Midwood High School Novice Tennis Tournament once again got under way in an attempt to produce new material for the varsity team. Coach Murray Eisenstadt, with the assistance of team members, is in charge of the tournament at the Midwood tennis courts opposite the school. The tournament is open to all boys. It is run in the same style as the National Singles Championship at Forest Hills, on the elimination basis. "Those who reach the quarter final rounds are automatically promoted to the varsity tennis team," said the coach.

During the past few years, the tournament has taken hold, and has grown from thirty or forty players to one hundred players.

Some of the contestants that have distinguished themselves to date are Mark Lobel, Peter Stone, Billy Mogelescu, Leon Rappaport, Arnie Cohn, Steve Rubin, and Howard Mellow.

Last year, the Midwood Tennis team won the division title, the Brooklyn championship, and was runner up in the city championships to Bronx High School of Science. The nucleus of the team will consist of six returning veterans. They are Ed Frauwirth, Kit Porter, Pete Balbert, Neil Flamm, Roger Levine, and Larry Lazarus. Last year's members who were graduated are: Eric Blum, Ross Brechner, Morty Cohen, Jeff Pomerance, Joe Rappaport, Jeff Mogeloff, and Julian Schiller. Of these men, the team loses the number one, two and four positioned players.

This year the Midwood racquetmen will be playing on new home courts. As a result, they are moving from College Courts to the courts at McDonald Avenue and Avenue S. "The Annual Novice Tournament is a self-perpetuating farm system. The calibre of competition has been extremely keen and most of the matches have been very hard fought," Coach Eisenstadt stated. "Tennis at Midwood should be an all year sport for girls as well as for boys. Perhaps the City of Midwood, working under the enlightened leadership of Dr. Bernstein, can work out a plan whereby a program of formal tennis instruction by qualified teachers can be instituted," the coach strongly advised. "It is a wonderful feeling to have a championship team, but, it's even better to feel that the school is engaged in a junior development program. As a result, hundreds of students either are introduced to the game or become more proficient at it each year," Coach Eisenstadt ultimately stated.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

SWIMMING

This year's swimming team, piloted by a new coach, is readying itself for this term's meets.

In previous years, the team has had a coach from the faculty of another school. This, coupled with the fact that Midwood has no swimming facilities of its own, proved disheartening to the members of the team. This year, however, Midwood at least has a coach on its own faculty, though he is not in the main building. The new coach, Mr. Solomon, is a gym teacher at the annex. In the words of captain Gary Nyman: "He seems to be an interested and energetic worker who will do his utmost for the team."

Although most of the veterans are retuning, Mr. Solomon emphasized the need for new members, especially freshmen. The returning members include: captain Gary Nyman, co-captain Jeff Margolis, Ken Reiss, Don Scannapieco, Bob Schwartz, Phil Singer, Ronny Rosen, John Rosen, Ken Roth, Roger Fine, Mike Wolfson, Art Estrine, Henry Cohn, Larry Blum, Steve Feldstein, Ira Schwartz, Dave Davis, Mike Smith, and Ronnie Schecter.

The team meets from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Madison High School Pool. As for the team's prospects, co-captain Jeff Margolis says, "We're going to do one hundred percent better than last year."

The team is in need of any boys who are adept in the butterfly, breast, or back strokes. All those who are interested should please contact Gary or Jeff.

BOWLING

Midwood's bowling team is now in the midst of getting into shape for this year's competition.

Led by Mark Coblin, the team's highest scorer, who averages 170, the Midmen hope to better last year's 7-3 record.

Two of the three losses were to Erasmus, which wound up 10-0. But the boys are confident that they are an improved team and this year expect to play Brooklyn Tech in the City Finals.

The veterans of last year's action who will try to bring the championship to Glenwood Road are Mark Coblin, Steve Edelson, Al "Butch" Vitulli, Steve Rodgers, Harvey Sonnenberg, Norm Moldberger, and Al Markowitz. All the boys are seniors.

There are some promising new stars who probably will be seen on the lanes this fall. They are Steve Jackness who averages 170, Jeff Wolfert and Artie Adler both averaging 155.

RIFLE

The Midwood rifle team, again under the direction of Barney Cohen, is readying itself for the 1958-1959 season.

The team practices at Brooklyn Technical H.S., and is optimistic about its ten scheduled matches. The first of these matches will be against Madison, on October 9.

With much of the team having been graduated, the squad centers itself around the veterans; included are captain Eric Nagler, Paul Bernstein, Jay Blanke and Larry Speigal.

To qualify for the team, one must be able to shoot about 150 out of 200 points. Those students who are interested should contact Manager Spiegal in homeroom 235A or Mr. Cohen directly.

CROSS COUNTRY

The cross country team has just completed training for the forthcoming season. The team utilized both Midwood Field and Prospect Park to drill.

Coach Bernstein, who is handling the team for the second year, is looking forward to a successful season. He pins his hopes on a promising combination of returning veterans and new men. Says Mr. Bernstein, "I am encouraged greatly by the large number of students trying out for the team. This, I feel, increases our chances of having a good season."

The squad consists mainly of newcomers. Many of these boys intend to try out later for the track team. The returning veterans are Moris Binion, Frank Bruton, Zach Cohen, Bob Falk, Steve Marpol, Mike Rich, Bob Schwager, Mike Shaw, and De Tyson.

"If the boys develop to their full potential," says Coach Bernstein, "this will be one of the best cross country teams in Midwood history."

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Sportlight

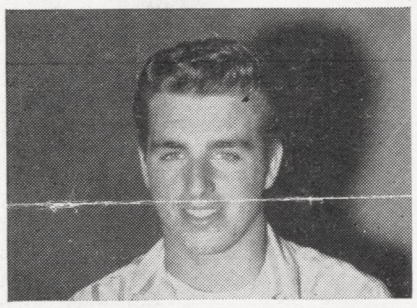
Amidst the odor of oranges and liniment and the clacking of cleats, we come across a mild-mannered and spirited young athlete. This is Midwood's ace quarterback of the 1958 gridiron season, Tom Seccia.

Tom, called "Setch" by his friends, is embarking upon his third year of varsity football. Last year, after leading Midwood's split-T formation to a victory over Jefferson and a magnificent stand against undefeated Lincoln, the 5'10", 173 pound quarterback injured his leg in the Tilden game, and was sidelined for the remainder of the campaign.

However, this year promises to be the biggest and best season in Tom's career. Says Tom, "I've been on the team for three years, and I've never seen a team with such desire to win than this year's Midwood team."

As far as team support goes, Tom states that "last year we had one of the biggest turnouts in Midwood history, due to the fact that our teams have been getting better and better as each year passes on. I'm sure that attendance will keep up this season, even though we play a limited number of home games."

Getting to know Tom, we find that he is a member of mixed chorus, the baseball team, for which he plays shortstop, and the track team. He is also a very avid golf fan as a result of his summer job at a driving range. When watching television, Tom especially enjoys adult westerns, mainly "Maverick" and "Have Gun, Will Travel." During the summer, besides playing golf, Tom played shortstop for a team in the Parade Grounds League.



Tom Seccia

The biggest thrill in his football career was the '57 Jefferson game, in which Tom led his team to victory by carrying the ball for twelve of Midwood's thirteen points. Says Setch, "I hope I can enjoy many more thrills like that."

Later last season, Tom accompanied his family to Philadelphia to see the Army-Notre Dame contest. "It was one of the best games I've ever seen."

After graduation, Tom would like an opportunity to play for Notre Dame. We hope he gets his chance.

BULLETIN . . .

As this paper is put to bed, the Midwood soccer team has just completed its first two league games.

In an auspicious debut, the Middies overran Erasmus by a score of 4 to 3. Steve Bergman, Arnie Cohn, Bob Kent and Harvey Eckman succeeded in putting the ball through the goal posts.

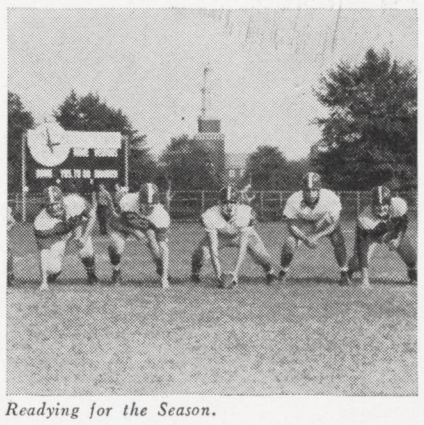
In its second encounter, the Blue and White edged out Bushwick by a 1-0 count. The lone tally was scored by Arnie Cohn.

SECCIA AND TEAM READY FOR TODAY'S GAME

The Midwood football team, looking forward to a successful 1958 season, has been practicing at a torrid pace since the beginning of September. They are out to better last year's mediocre 3-4 record.

Once again they are under the guidance of coach Bill Eisenberg. For the first time in many years, the team will have an assistant coach in the person of Charles Damiana. Mr. Damiana played football at New Utrecht and then at Brooklyn College. Most of his coaching will be directed towards the backfield.

Mr. Eisenberg has only one starting player returning from last year. He is captain Tom Seccia. Outstanding players from last year, such as Warren Kronenberg, Harvey Bigeleisen, Herman Bott, Tom Emmons, and Frank Genese are gone. However, many capable boys have joined the team this season to take up the slots left by these star athletes.



Readying for the Season.

In the backfield, Tom Seccia has a stranglehold on the quarterback spot. Artie Morris, a junior, and Marty Halleran seem to be destined for the halfback positions while Mike Vulpis, another junior, will probably start at fullback. Up front on the line, the picture is much cloudier. The team has a surplus of talent here with many boys vying for each spot. At the end position, Emil Ostenberg, a newcomer, and Ed Auerbach, Marty Wachs, and Sandy Sorowitz are all top contenders.

The two guards, in all likelihood, will be chosen from Joe Siev, John Luchese and Richie Dechowitz. Les Ziskis at this time looks like the first string center. The kicking chores will be shared by Tom Seccia, Bob Watt, and Ed Auerbach.

Coach Bill Eisenberg has this to say about the team and its prospects, "We expect to have our first really successful season this year for we have the material and spirit to win most of our games."

In the month of September, the Mid-eleven played a series of four scrimmages against teams who are not in Midwood's division. They provided each other with some valuable experience, however.

Today's scheduled game against Jefferson at Brooklyn College Field is the season's opener. The rest of the schedule is as follows:

Sat., Oct. 11—Madison.....Away
Sat., Oct. 18—Erasmus .....Home
Sat., Oct. 25—Lafayette .....Home
Fri., Oct. 31—Tilden .....Away
Sat., Nov. 8—Lincoln .....Away
Sat., Nov. 15—Boys .....Away

MIDMEN BOW TO FORT HAMILTON IN SOCCER TILT

The Midwood soccer team is undergoing a rebuilding program this year with graduation having taken such stars of last year as Aldo Corti, Herbie Schloss, and Alan Gronsbell.

The coach, Mr. Moskowitz, is banking his hopes mainly on returning backfield men Mike Erdos, Johnny Minkin, Lew Jacobson, Mike Berkowitz, and veteran front line players Steve Bergman, Arnie Cohn, Saul Charney, and Bob Kent, the only major lettermen back this year.

Bolstering the teams' attack and defense is an array of newcomers who are in contention for starting berths on the squad.

The man who will be responsible for turning away more opponents' shots this season is goalie Howie Cohen, who is said to have "ice water in his veins."

Outstanding rookie backs are Joe Olewitz, and Lior Grinsberg at fullback; Harvey Eckman, Ken Mazlen, and Artie Necritz at halfback. Linemen who merit consideration on this year's aggregation are Marv Fishman, Mike Kaufman, Artie Firtell, and Alan Gaffin.

The first league test is against Erasmus on Monday, Sept. 22. Following the fray with the Dutchmen, the Midbooters will meet Bushwick High.

In the team's first contest, a practice scrimmage against Fort Hamilton, on Thursday, September 18, the Middie squad was whitewashed by a 4-0 count.

Three of the opposing team's goals came in the first half with the initial score coming on a disputed call on a high kick that seemingly went over the goal. The final Ft. Hamilton tally came on a well executed pass play, with Albert Tate, the Fort Hamilton center forward, booting the ball clearly through the posts.

Coach Moskowitz praised defensive play of backs Joe Moszkowitz and Artie Amman and goalie Howie Cohen. These were the only highlights of an otherwise poorly played game by the Blue and White squad.

Kickoff

HOWIE BLAU

I often wonder why I ever decided to play football for Midwood. It's three years now I'm on the team, and since I've been here, we've never had a winning season. I was beginning to think it was my fault, until they told me that Midwood had never gone through a schedule, winning more games than they've lost. I guess one of the things that makes me stay on the squad is the thought that I'll play for the first successful team, but, I'm beginning to lose hope.

When I first came to Midwood, you know how everybody stays outside the school, throwing the bull; well, half the guys I see are wearing team jackets. So I figure, if you want to be a wheel in Midwood, you gotta be on a team. Then I noticed that all the cute girls are making a play for these guys with the jackets. Think of it, first day of school, and the girls are looking already!

Well, I decided right there and then, I have to get myself a team jacket. Now I got another problem. What team do I go out for?

I figure basketball, but I'm too short and heavy. How about tennis? Naw, I look lousy in shorts. Soccer? My head is too soft to start bouncing balls on it. Football? Perfect! They'll put some equipment on me and I'll look like an athlete.

So, I looked on the bulletin board in the gym and found out that the first practice is at the end of the week.

Come Saturday, and I ask the coach for a tryout and he says O.K. Nice guy, the coach. I look as much of a football player as Boris Karloff looks like a comedian.

So, I put on the equipment and run out on the field. After an hour or so of blocking, falling, and eating dirt, the coach calls me to the side of the field and tells me I made the team. Well, I'll tell ya, I was plenty happy. Now, I was closer to getting my jacket.

This jacket deal has turned into such an obsession with me that as soon as I went home and took a shower, I ran down to the sporting goods store to place my order.

Two weeks later, I picked "it" up. Next morning I wore my most prized possession to school.

Sure enough, for the first time since I've been in Midwood, two girls came over to say hello. It wasn't such a big deal, but it was a start. Once I got friendly with the dolls, they'd say hello anyhow, so I guess that the jacket didn't matter too much.

So then, I asked myself, maybe I'm staying on the team for service credit. But that's not true, because I've got other jobs in school that more than suffice.

But, I play anyhow, every Saturday afternoon, and come home dirty and tired and sometimes bleeding for the glory of the "blue and white" who has never produced a winning combination on the gridiron.

I often wonder why I ever decided to play football for Midwood.

* * * *

Today, the Midwood football team opens its season at Brooklyn College Field against Jefferson. Let's get out and support our team.